

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                                  |   |                              |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of      | ) |                              |
|                                  | ) |                              |
| Tadayuki SUGIMOTO et al.         | ) | Group Art Unit: Unassigned   |
|                                  | ) |                              |
| Application No.: Unassigned      | ) | Examiner: Unassigned         |
|                                  | ) |                              |
| Filed: December 10, 2003         | ) | Confirmation No.: Unassigned |
|                                  | ) |                              |
| For: IMAGE FORMING DEVICE, IMAGE | ) |                              |
| FORMING PROGRAM, COMPUTER        | ) |                              |
| READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM        | ) |                              |
| ON WHICH THE PROGRAM IS          | ) |                              |
| RECORDED, AND IMAGE FORMING      | ) |                              |
| METHOD                           | ) |                              |

**FIRST**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 

Platon N. Mandros  
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Date: December 10, 2003

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APPLICATION No.  
Unassigned

APPLICANT  
Tadayuki SUGIMOTO et al.

|       |            |
|-------|------------|
| GROUP | Unassigned |
|-------|------------|

[illegible][illegible][illegible]Date  
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.